

T H E
FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Brainard Free Dispensary,

OF THE

CITY OF CHICAGO.

*"The race of mankind would perish did they
cease to aid each other."*

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

CHICAGO:
BASSETT & HAND, STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
96 WEST RANDOLPH STREET.

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232 W. Randolph St.
79 W. Madison St.

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It is the aim of this Institution to confine its work to those who are really worthy objects of charity.

The Dispensary is supported solely by voluntary contributions. The sum of forty dollars paid at once, or ten dollars annually for four years, constitutes the donor a life member. The sum of five dollars constitutes the donor an annual member.

BRAINARD FREE DISPENSARY.

OFFICERS.

SAMUEL HOARD, President,

Dr. V. A. TURPIN, Vice President,

R. E. HOYT, Secretary.

GEORGE McPHERSON, Treasurer,

TRUSTEES.

JOHN PHILLIPS, Sen.,

A. G. THROOP,

JNO. F. EBERHART,

JNO. CRIGHTON,

E. INGALS, M. D.,

J. B. BRADWELL,

Dr. V. A. TURPIN,

GEORGE McPHERSON,

E. A. BISHOP,

P. W. GATES,

T. M. AVERY,

CHAS. E. CHASE.

HUGH TEMPLETON,

SAMUEL HOARD,

R. E. HOYT,

MEDICAL BOARD.

EDWIN POWELL, M. D., Consulting Surgeon.

Consulting Physicians,

J. P. ROSS, M. D.,

H. WEBSTER JONES, M. D.

E. L. HOLMES, M. D., Consulting Oculist.

Attending Physicians and Surgeons,

R. M. LACKEY, M. D.,

H. M. LYMAN, M. D.,

M. K. GLEASON, M. D.,

P. ADOLPHUS, M. D.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

OF THE

BRAINARD FREE DISPENSARY.

“Blessed is he that considereth the poor.”

IN presenting the first Annual Report of the operations of the Brainard Free Dispensary, the Trustees congratulate the contributors to its support upon the fact that unquestionable good has been done, and the need of such an institution has been proved beyond a doubt. It is to be regretted, however, that the usefulness of the Institution was much crippled by being deprived of its office at No. 232 West Randolph street, in October last. Another suitable place was not obtained until the first of February following, when the office was removed to its present locality, No. 79 West Madison street, cor. Jefferson.

Dispensaries are not, like some of our charitable agencies, of recent origin. The perfect dispensary system of the present day is the outgrowth of the *almonry* of the middle ages. No other means of aiding the sick poor has proved so efficacious and economical.

This Dispensary was the first institution of the kind established in this city independent of Medical Colleges or Hospitals. Though in its infancy, and having been in operation only eight months of the year, yet *six hundred and fifty-six* sick poor persons have been treated and *one hundred and sixty-three* children vaccinated; and this with an expenditure of only *two hundred and fifty dollars*.

By means of dispensaries the early termination or palliation of diseases is accomplished, and the sick poor, in many cases, are saved from becoming a charge to charitable institutions for a protracted period of time—thus saving expense, besides conferring an invaluable boon upon the poor sufferers themselves. The Board feel thankful for the support given this enterprise during the past year, and its results justify the expectation of a much more liberal support during the coming year.

The report of the attending physicians and surgeons, and that of the Treasurer, are herewith appended.

REPORT OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BRAINARD FREE DISPENSARY,

Gentlemen:—The accompanying figures will give you some idea of the result of our labors in connection with this Dispensary. As is the case in the beginning of all such charities, we have experienced much embarrassment for want of the necessary facilities to accomplish the greatest possible amount of good. Our supply of medicines and surgical appliances have been insufficient. In many of the most needy cases we have been unable to do more than write prescriptions for the medicines required—trusting to the benevolence of druggists, or some one else, to furnish them the medicines.

The room at present occupied as an office is far too small. Frequently during cold weather a portion of the patients have had to remain outside until others were prescribed for. The patients have come from all parts of the city, and some have been visited in all divisions of the city. It is hoped that the pecuniary prosperity of the Institution will be such as will insure us, during the coming year, more capacious rooms and a more complete assortment and larger quantities of medicines and surgical dressings.

We would suggest, too, the great importance of connecting with the Dispensary, bathing facilities for the benefit of the poor, as a sanitary and economical measure. The current expenses of the bath could be paid by collecting a trifling sum from each of the less needy bathers. It is to be regretted that in this particular we are behind some of the eastern countries, where free baths for the poor are established, and take the place of dispensaries—the latter being rendered almost unnecessary by the powerful sanitary effect of the former. The benefit of dispensaries with this auxillary would not be confined to the poor, or those who avail themselves of its advantages directly, but would prevent or check epidemics in their incipency, in the fever beds of filth and poverty, and thus protect the lives of the rich as well. They would also prove economical by furnishing the poor with health preserving means and medical attendance at their homes, thus keeping them from the hospitals and poor houses. In this way those who contribute to the support of these Institutions not only aid the poor by their alms, but serve at the same time to lighten the burthen of their own taxes.

R. M. LACKEY, M. D.,

H. M. LYMAN, M. D.,

M. K. GLEASON, M. D.,

P. ADOLPHUS, M. D.

Attending Physicians and Surgeons.

DISEASES TREATED

BY THE

ATTENDING PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,

DURING THE YEARS 1867-8.

Abscess.....	16	Icterus.....	5
Adenitis.....	3	Incontinence of Urine.....	2
Amenorrhœa.....	17	Influenza.....	9
Anasarca.....	2	Leucorrhœa.....	11
Asthma.....	5	Mammary Abscess.....	1
Bright's Disease.....	3	Meningitis.....	1
Bronchitis.....	65	Morbus Coxarius.....	2
Carbuncle.....	2	Necrosis.....	3
Cardiac Disease.....	10	Neuralgia.....	17
Cephalalgia.....	13	Orchitis.....	1
Cholera Infantum.....	17	Otalgia.....	3
Chorea.....	1	Otitis.....	5
Conjunctivitis.....	9	Paralysis.....	3
Constipation.....	70	Parotitis.....	1
Cystitis.....	3	Peritonitis.....	1
Debility.....	48	Phthisis Pulmonalis.....	19
Delirium Tremens.....	1	Pleuritis.....	3
Dentition.....	5	Pleurodynia.....	2
Diarrhœa.....	37	Pertusis.....	5
" Chronic.....	6	Rheumatism.....	36
Dropsy.....	3	Rubeola.....	12
Dysentery.....	5	Scabies.....	8
Dyspepsia.....	10	Scarlatina.....	2
Dysuria.....	2	Sec'y Syphilis.....	8
Eczema.....	9	Sprains.....	2
Fever Bilious.....	4	Stomatitis.....	4
" Intermittent.....	18	Synovitis.....	6
" Remittent.....	6	Syphilis Primary.....	5
Fractured Arm.....	3	Tonsillitis.....	16
" Leg.....	1	Ulcers.....	11
Gastritis.....	8	Urticaria.....	2
Gonorrhœa.....	12	Uterine Hemorrhage.....	2
Haemoptysis.....	2	Variola.....	6
Haemorrhoids.....	7	Worms.....	9
Herpes.....	2	Surgical operations.....	5
Hydrocephalus.....	3		

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Brainard Free Dispensary in account with GEORGE MCPHERSON.

Expenditures.	Receipts.
Rent of office.....\$129.24	From Contributions.....\$250.74
Furniture 45.00	
Medicines, &c..... 63.00	
Printing..... 13.50	
Total.....\$250.74	Total\$250.74

CONTRIBUTORS.

John Phillips, Sen.	\$75.00
Union Park Congregational Church.....	20.00
Edwin Powell.....	20.00
H. M. Lyman.....	15.00
R. M. Lackey.....	15.00
— Wilkinson.....	12.00
George McPherson.....	10.00
Bliss & Sharp.....	10.00
Beckwith & Percy.....	5.00
H. H. Kelly.....	5.00
E. L. Holmes.....	5.00
New England Congregational Church.....	6.37
P. Adolphus.....	5.00

Scotch Presbyterian Church.....	6.87
George Fergus.....	5.00
Jameson & Morse.....	5.00
A. B. Bryan.....	6.00
M. K. Gleason.....	10.00
— Hatch.....	3.50
E. M. Turner.....	3.50
E. D. Swain.....	2.50
A. S. Reber.....	2.00
— McKay.....	2.00
J. F. Brabrook	1.00

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the BRAINARD FREE DISPENSARY, in the city of Chicago, the sum of.dollars, to be paid by my executor out of my real or personal estate, as soon as the settlement of my affairs will permit, to the Treasurer of the said Institution, to be applied by the Trustees thereof to the general purposes of said Institution.



